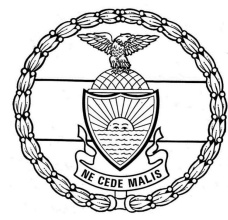




**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX
COMMUNITY BOARD 7**



HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT YAJAIRA ARIAS, CHAIRPERSON KARLA CABRERA CARRERA, DISTRICT
MANAGER

VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Chair: | Chad Y. Royer |
| Meeting Date: | September 20, 2023 |
| Meeting Time: | 6:30PM |
| Meeting Location: | Kittay Houses, 2550 Webb Avenue, Bronx, NY 10468 |
| Members In Attendance: | ✓ Chad Royer _ Emmanuel Asamoah ✓ Bernard Wright ✓ Jean Hill ✓ Hugo Gonzalez _ Tobie Buford |
| Minutes done by: | Chad Y. Royer |

Minutes:

- I. Introduction**
- II. Review Of Previous Minutes**
- III. New Business**
 - A. Topics For The Year**
 - 1.** The committee members discussed topics that they would like to cover for this current year, with some being new, previously mentioned or a combination of both. Topics included housing, health services needs based on age, the flagging events, dentist services, photography program with Bronx Vet Center, health benefits overall, and the possibility of hosting meetings at the VA Center on Kingsbridge Road.
 - 2. FY2024 Capital & Expense Requests and Responses**
 - a) The Capital & Expense Budget process was briefly discussed with the committee and members of the public. Committee members were asked if they had any ideas of requests to make. The committee will continue the discussion off-line in preparation for the next Veterans Committee meeting.



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3. Community Conversation Around Advocacy of Veterans

- a) The committee continued the conversation from last season where ideas for legislative recommendations were entertained. Three ideas that were previously brought by committee were the following:
 - (1) a separate or dedicated portal for Veterans to apply for housing
 - (2) a minimum percentage of occupancy for Veterans in need of housing in newly built buildings and/or repurposed buildings via conversion.
 - (3) an allotment of food resources to be distributed monthly to Veterans directly with criteria to be specified
 - b) Previously mentioned ideas are being worked on for the wording for the next upcoming meeting(s).
 - c) Motion by Jean Hill for Bronx Community Board 7 to supply a letter of support to City Council to support Resolution 581 to recognize November as Veterans Appreciation Month for New York City, as requested by Bronx Borough President Vanessa Gibson, seconded by Hugo Gonzalez. Motion carries 4-0.
 - d) Motion by Jean Hill for Bronx Community Board 7 to supply a letter of support to City Council to recommend an increase of \$3.2 million to the budget of the City Council Veterans Initiative as requested by Veterans advocates and groups, seconded by Bernard Wright. Motion carries 4-0.
4. Bronx Community Board 7's Veterans Committee will host the Annual Bronx Victory Memorial Flagging Event in November. The committee decided on November 4, 2023 with a rain date of November 18, 2023. Both dates are on a Saturday. Further information will follow soon.

5. Other

THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION, CONTACT US AT:

229-A EAST 204TH STREET ♦ BRONX, NY 10458 ♦ PHONE: (718) 933-5650

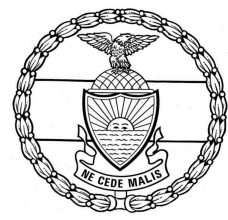
E-MAIL: KCABRERACARRERA@CB.NYC.GOV ♦ WEBSITE: NYC.GOV/BRONXCB7



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- a) The committee entertained a suggestion by Bernard Wright to have a "stand down" event in the future. This would be a large event for Veterans where many agencies across the board will be present to address various needs that may fall outside of Veterans services, as well as Veterans-based services. The committee will discuss further on a possible location and time frame.

IV. Adjournment

- A.** The next meeting for the Veterans Committee will be on October 18, 2023.
B. Motion to adjourn meeting by Jean Hill, seconded by Hugo Gonzalez.